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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/452,161	12/01/1999	SHUKO SAITO	21.1933	9954

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EXAMINER

SURYAWANSHI, SURESH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2185

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2003

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/452,161

Applicant(s)

SAITO ET AL.

Examiner

Suresh K Suryawanshi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/27/2003 amendments.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 1999 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-18 are presented for examination.

Drawings

2. This application, filed under former 37 CFR 1.60, lacks formal drawings. The informal drawings filed in this application are acceptable for examination purposes. When the application is allowed, applicant will be required to submit new formal drawings. In unusual circumstances, the formal drawings from the abandoned parent application may be transferred by the grant of a petition under 37 CFR 1.182.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kitagawa (US Patent no 5,898,234).

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5. As per claims 1, 7 and 15, Kitagawa teaches

a first power supply input terminal [fig. 9, Battery source 33; col. 11, lines 9-11];

a second power supply input terminal [fig. 9, AC adaptor 31; col. 11, lines 9-11];

a power supply input detection unit [fig. 9, Power Feed Status Detection 34; col. 11, lines 20-23, 52-55];

a switch unit which cuts off a power supply [fig. 9, FET 73 ON/OFF switch; col. 11, lines 20-23, 52-55]; and

a power supply processor [fig. 9, MPU 39].

6. As per claims 3 and 9, Kitagawa teaches

a switch activating or deactivating the power [fig. 9, FET 73 ON/OFF switch]; and

a switch control unit driving the switch [fig. 9, Gate Controlled Circuit 52].

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7. As per claims 4 and 10, Kitagawa teaches about a backflow prevention unit [fig. 9, diode D1].

8. As per claims 6 and 12, Kitagawa teaches that the switch comprises a field effect transistor fig. 9, FET 73].

9. As per claim 13, Kitagawa teaches that the interface is a USB-specific or an IEEE-specific interface [inherent in the system as a notebook personal computer; col. 1, lines 10].

10. As per claim 14, Kitagawa teaches that the information processing device is a storage device which process a disk form, card form or tape form of a storage medium [inherent in a notebook personal computer; col. 1, line 10].

11. As per claim 15, Narita teaches

a first power supply input terminal [fig. 9, Battery source 33; col. 11, lines 9-11];

a second power supply input terminal [fig. 9, AC adaptor 31; col. 11, lines 9-11];

a detection unit [fig. 9, Power Feed Status Detection 34; col. 11, lines 20-23, 52-55];

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a switching unit cutting off power [fig. 9, FET 73 ON/OFF switch; col. 11, lines 20-23, 52-55].

12. As per claims 17 and 18, Narita teaches

a first and second power supply input terminal [fig. 9, Battery source 33, AC adaptor 31; col. 11, lines 9-11];

a switching unit to cut off power [fig. 9, FET 73 ON/OFF switch; col. 11, lines 20-23, 52-55].

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

14. Claims 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitagawa (US Patent no 5,898,234).

15. As per claims 5 and 11, Kitagawa teaches

a first switch activating or deactivating the power supplied by said first supply input terminal [fig. 9, Battery source 33; col. 11, lines 9-11].

Kitagawa does not teach about a second switch and a switch control unit driving one of the first and second switches. But it is clear in the invention of Narita that the system has an automatic control and priority given to the AC adaptor over the first power supply input terminal (battery) [col. 11, lines 10-12]. However, a routineer in the art would know how to duplicate a disclosed switch for second power supply input terminal and to have a control unit to activate or deactivate one of the switches accordingly. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention to a second switch which activates or deactivates the second power supply input terminal.

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Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suresh K Suryawanshi whose telephone number is 703-305-3990. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 703-305-9717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

sks

June 13, 2003


THOMAS LEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100